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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/974,838	10/12/2001	Toshio Kitazawa	214892US-2	7380
22850	7590	05/06/2005	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C. 1940 DUKE STREET ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				MILIA, MARK R
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2622				

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/974,838	KITAZAWA, TOSHIO	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Mark R. Milia	2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.**

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 12 October 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/12/01.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S.

Patent No. 6678068 to Richter et al.

Regarding claim 1, Richter discloses a printing apparatus comprising: image data input means for receiving input data (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5 lines 7-9, and column 7 lines 40-42), image data processing means for processing the image data and drawing the image data in an image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 7 lines 58-62, and column 8 lines 1-4), printing means for forming an image on a transfer sheet using the image data drawn in the image memory unit (see Figs. 4 and 6, column 5 lines 7-9, column 6 lines 9-29, column 7 lines 33-39, and column 8 lines 1-3), and display means for displaying, either dynamically or successively, which process the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see Figs. 7-20 and column 11 lines 46-58,

reference shows that a display is used to display messages concerning the state of an image file such as "spooling", "waiting to rip", "ripping", "waiting to print", and "printing" which sufficiently cover at any given moment which process image data is undergoing).

Regarding claim 2, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a spooling display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being received by the printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 3, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a drawing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being drawn in the image memory unit of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 12, column 7 lines 58-62, column 8 lines 1-4, and column 11 lines 51-54, reference shows a display message that refers to the ripping process which is analogous to the drawing process of the claim and therefore is anticipated by the reference).

Regarding claim 4, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a printing display component that indicates dynamically that the image data is in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus (see column 11 lines 51-54).

Regarding claim 5, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a spool data display component that indicates successively an amount of unprocessed image data not yet drawn in the

image memory unit from among that image data which has been received by the printing apparatus (see Figs. 26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 6, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 5, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a spool data display component that displays the amount of unprocessed image data on a per-print-job basis (see Figs. 26 and 27 and column 20 lines 46-49).

Regarding claim 7, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a drawing page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being drawn in the image memory component of the printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 21 lines 51-61).

Regarding claim 8, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a printed page display component that displays pages of image data in the process of being printed by the printing apparatus (see Fig. 29 and column 8 lines 8-10 and 51-61).

Regarding claim 9, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means comprises a saved job display component that displays a list of print jobs stored in the image memory component of the printing apparatus (see column 8 lines 1-4).

Regarding claim 10, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses a selectable plurality of supply trays for containing transfer sheets ready to be sent to the printing means, wherein the display means comprises a supply

tray display component that indicates a selected one of the supply trays (see Fig. 15 and column 12 lines 27-38).

Regarding claim 11, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses a selectable plurality of exit trays for receiving printed transfer sheets exited from the printing means, wherein the display means comprises an exit tray display component that indicates a selected one of the exit trays (see Fig. 17 and column 12 lines 56-64).

Regarding claim 12, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means displays a graphic image message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

Regarding claim 13, Richter discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 1, and further discloses wherein the display means displays a text message that indicates which process the image data is undergoing at any given moment, beginning with image data reception and ending with image data printing (see Fig. 12 and column 11 lines 46-58).

### ***Conclusion***

2. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. To further show the state of the art refer to U.S. Patent numbers 6292267 (Mori et al.), 6486968 (Nishikawa), 6738080 (Dash et al.), and 6850995 and

6347202 (Shishizuka et al.), and U.S. Patent Application Publication number 2001/0052995 (Idehara).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark R. Milia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7408. The examiner can normally be reached M-F 8:00am-4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached at (571) 272-7402. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Mark R. Milia  
Examiner  
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MRM

JOSEPH R. POKRZEWIA  
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*Joseph R. Pokrzewia*